

had fallen. Betwixt the wood and the back front of the house were two more wings; in one of which were baths for the use of the family; the other was an hospital for the reception of diseased men and animals.

Selim, as he approached the dwelling of Mirza, perceived in himself a pleasing awe he could no ways account for: however, he bid the slave he found in the portal, say, that Selim Abdallah, son of Aboul Mused the Happy, waited the commands of the sage Mirza.

He had been but a few minutes in a spacious hall, before Mirza appeared, and embracing him, said, "How happy am I to embrace my friend Mused, in the person of his son Selim! Retire with me, my son, to my apartment, and thou shalt not repent thy taking such a journey to see me."

After Selim had partaken of a cold collation that was instantly served up, Mirza began as follows: "I am not, my son, a stranger to the various occurrences of thy past life: thou art a repentant; I shall, therefore, forget what thou hast done amiss. My friend thy father Mused (had Haroun Araschid first paid the tribute due to mortality) was to have passed the remainder of his days with me: I have not been always retired from the busy world: thy father desired me to instruct thee, and make thee deserving of the present
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I mean to bestow on thee: attend to my story which I will tell thee in a few words. I succeeded my father Aboulcasemas Vizir to Mahommed, Sultan of Balfora. I had not long been Vizir before I became acquainted with the Faquir Myd Hamyr: he taught thy father and myself to have a right notion of virtue; and dying soon after promised to be my good genius, and to direct my every thought. I found him true to his word, and have ever obeyed the impulse, little less than divine, and by that means have long enjoyed the title of Sage. I gained honour during my administration as Vizir, and immediately after the Sultan's death built this retreat, and have lived here ever since. Make virtue the basis of every action of thy life: thy father's soul will direct thee; obey the impulse, and behave in such a manner to every creature, that even thine enemies must approve of thee: let no passion be predominant in thy breast but the love of God, and universal charity to all his creatures: be resigned to the will of thy Maker, and let thy prayers rather consist in thanksgivings than petitions; God best knows what is for thy good; dictate not to him who is all wise: virtue is all in all; and in virtue alone consists the wisdom I am famed for."

Mirza having finished his discourse, asked Selim for his father's tablets; and having strewed